

Appn. No.: 10/715,809
Amendment Dated December 21, 2005
Reply to Office Action of September 2, 2005

KSI-325US

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1-4, 6-10, and 12-21 are pending in the application. Claim 16 has been allowed. Claims 1, 3, 5-7, 10-15, 18, and 20-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Okada et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,126,432). Claims 2, 4, and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okada in view of Kinnaird (U.S. Patent No. 5,839,640). Claims 8 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okada in view of Koseki (U.S. Patent No. 6,122,307).

Applicants acknowledge, with appreciation, the opportunity provided to Applicants' representative (Christopher Spletzer, Sr.) on December 20, 2005 to conduct a telephone interview with the Examiner in connection with the above-identified application. During the interview, it was agreed that claim 1, as amended, overcomes the rejection of record. Thus, absent any additional relevant prior art being located by the Examiner in a further search, claim 1 is in condition for allowance.

More specifically, claim 1 has been amended to recite that "the bonding head being configured to provide motion along only one of (a) a substantially horizontal x-axis direction and (b) a substantially horizontal y-axis direction." (emphasis added). According to the present invention, it is understood that rotation about a vertical axis configured to provide motion along the x-axis may have a small y-axis component, and vice versa (see the originally filed application at page 7, paragraph 24).

Independent claims 3, 4, and 10 have been amended to include similar features. Thus, claims 3, 4, and 10 are also in condition for allowance (subject to any additional relevant prior art being located by the Examiner in a further search). Claims 2, 6-9, 12-15, and 17-21 depend from one of independent claims 1, 4, and 10, either directly or indirectly, and are therefore also in condition for allowance.

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In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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CMS/tmb

Dated: December 21, 2005

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The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 50-3643 of any fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (571)273-8300 on the date shown below.

December 21, 2005

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